



BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

Sunday, January 24, 2010

JAN 27 2010

Mr. Paul E. Stacey, Supervising Environmental Analyst
Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning and Standards Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Support for Proposed Stream Flow Standards and Regulations

Dear Mr. Stacey:

I am a Redding CT. resident and a member of the Mianus Chapter of Trout Unlimited; I am sending this letter to inform you of my complete support for the Proposed Stream Flow Standards and Regulations.

We here in Connecticut are blessed with an ample supply of clean fresh water that if properly managed and respected there will be an adequate supply for all our needs. These proposed regulations would lead the way to improved water management in the state.

Considering the proposed regulations will apply to all rivers in Connecticut this is a most important progressive step in protecting the health and quality of our rivers and streams while recognizing that water releases must be made to more closely match these naturally occurring cycles.

Since a large number of our State population rely on groundwater for drinking and other uses, it is important we ensure that groundwater withdrawals do not result in flow reductions of nearby streams, or even worse, the complete drying out of a streambed, which has been known to happen.

In the case of urban rivers, which will likely be designated as Class 4 rivers, the new regulations should be strengthened. If this designation remains unchanged it will strip virtually all of the stream flow protections from such rivers and severely limit any chance that such streams can remain viable habitat for trout and their food and as an effective recreational resource. I therefore encourage you to put in place minimum standards, or at least a sliding scale, within the Class 4 designation that would ensure the river's health and level of aquatic life.

In closing, the Proposed Stream Flow Standards and Regulations represent an important step in ensuring an abundant supply of water for human use while protecting the ecological needs and recreational enjoyment of Connecticut's rivers and streams.

I ask you to carefully consider and support these proposals.

Sincerely,

Edward A McQuat 1-24-2010
31 Pine Mountain Road,
Redding CT 06896.

203-544-8014
edmcquat@optonline.net

CC Jeff Yates Sec. Mianus Chapter T.U.